

# MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

## Success Stories from the Field

### Western Forge Corp

Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center - Colorado

#### Western Forge Anticipates \$600,000 in Increased Sales

##### Client Profile:

Western Forge Corp., a subsidiary of Emerson Electric, manufactures screwdrivers for the tool industry. Western Forge was established in 1965 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and currently employs 300 people.

##### Situation:

Western Forge needed to get its employees trained in Lean Manufacturing to improve efficiencies. Western Forge contacted the Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center (MAMTC), a NIST MEP affiliate, for help.

##### Solution:

MAMTC helped Western Forge apply for and receive an Office of Economic Development (OED) grant for Lean training. MAMTC conducted 16 Lean 101 courses at the facility. Lean 101 outlines the basic tenets of Lean and its philosophy of eliminating waste and non-value added activities. Additionally, MAMTC took employees through a Lean simulation exercise that demonstrates the tangible results of a Lean process.

##### Results:

- \* Anticipated sales increase of \$600,000.
- \* Trained 270 employees on concepts of Lean Manufacturing.
- \* Decreased inventory by \$75,000.
- \* Improved competitiveness.
- \* Empowered employees with skills needed to actively participate in company's success.

##### Testimonial:

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